

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method for remote programming of a device configured to be program-controlled, comprising:

[[(a)]] remotely transmitting program data from a control station via a long-distance connection to an interface connected to the device;

[[(b)]] buffering the program data at the interface;

[[(c)]] remotely transmitting a legitimization from the control station to the interface, the legitimization forming a security code associated with the device;

[[(d)]] forwarding the legitimization, unbuffered, to the device immediately upon receiving the legitimization at the interface;

[[(e)]] checking, by the device, the legitimization for validity; and

[[(f)]] if the legitimization is determined to be valid, entering the program data in a memory of the device.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for remote programming of a device configured to be program-controlled, comprising:

[[(a)]] remotely transmitting program data from a control station via a long-distance connection to an interface connected to the device;

[[(b)]] buffering the program data at the interface;

[[(c)]] remotely transmitting a legitimization from the control station to the interface;

buffering the legitimization at the interface by storing the legitimization together with the program data;

assigning a validity period to the legitimization;

[[(d)]] forwarding the legitimization to the device;

[[(e)]] checking, by the device, the legitimization for validity, wherein the checking includes checking of [[a]] the validity period of the legitimization; and

[[(f)]] if the legitimization is determined to be valid, entering the program data in a memory of the device.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 17, wherein at least one of the legitimization and the program data is wirelessly transmitted via the long-distance connection.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 18, wherein at least one of the legitimization and the program data is wirelessly transmitted via the long-distance connection.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 19, wherein the method is repeated if a fault occurs in the wireless transmission of at least one of the legitimization and the program data.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 20, wherein the method is repeated if a fault occurs in the wireless transmission of at least one of the legitimization and the program data.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein at least one of the program data and the legitimization is forwarded via a wired connection from the interface to the device.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 22, wherein at least one of the program data and the legitimization is forwarded via a wired connection from the interface to the device.

25. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

prior to the remote transmission of the program data to the interface, reading second data from the memory of the device and transmitting the second [[date]] data to the control station.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 24, further comprising:

prior to the remote transmission of the program data to the interface, reading second data from the memory of the device and transmitting the second [[date]] data to the control station.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 26, wherein the second data are buffered at the interface prior to being transmitted to the control station.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 26, wherein the control station arranges the program data on the basis of the second data.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as recited Claim 23, further comprising:

after entering of the program data into the memory of the device, checking whether the remote programming has been successfully completed, and

if the remote programming has been successfully completed, resuming an operation of the device, controlled by the program data.

30. (Currently Amended) A system for remote programming of a device, comprising:

an interface configured to receive program data and a legitimization; and

[[a]] the device is configured to be remotely programmed and program-controlled, wherein the device includes a processor and a program memory, [[and]] wherein the device is operatively connected to the interface, and wherein the legitimization forms a security code associated with the device;

wherein the interface is configured to: [[a]] buffer the received program data; [[b]] forward the received legitimization to the device immediately and without buffering, upon receiving the legitimization; and [[c]] transmit the buffered program data to the device after a positive determination of validity of the legitimization by the device.

31. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the program memory is one of a flash memory and an EEPROM.

32. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the interface is operatively connected to a control station with the aid of a wireless long-distance connection.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 32, wherein the device is a control unit that controls a subsidiary device.

36. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 35, wherein the subsidiary device is one of: a motor vehicle; a component of the motor vehicle; and an engine.